

## *News & Notes from the National Institute of Nursing Research: January 2011*

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### **1. NINR Invites Public Comments on Next Strategic Plan**

NINR invites public comments on a draft of the Institute's next strategic plan. The plan is available on the NINR website at <http://www.ninr.nih.gov/NewsAndInformation/StrategicPlan2011>.

The draft strategic plan describes NINR's approach for advancing the science of health over the next five years. In doing so, NINR will leverage its past accomplishments to pave the way for future discoveries in the areas of science that have the greatest potential to impact public health.

The comment period is now open and will close on March 19, 2011. Members of the public can provide comments via email to: [NINRstrategicplan@mail.nih.gov](mailto:NINRstrategicplan@mail.nih.gov). The strategic plan is scheduled for release in October, 2011.

### **2. Dr. Grady Testifies to Senate Aging Committee on Alzheimer's Research**

In December 2010, NINR Director Dr. Patricia Grady testified at a forum of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, entitled "Until There's a Cure: How to Help Alzheimer's Patients and Families NOW."

Dr. Grady discussed NINR-supported research findings related to addressing the needs of older adults with Alzheimer's disease (AD) and their family caregivers, such as the Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregiver Health (REACH) program. Co-funded by NINR and the National Institute on Aging, REACH is an on-going, multi-site study providing caregivers with education about AD, along with strategies to help them manage troublesome behaviors of the care recipient. REACH also emphasizes ways for caregivers to manage their stress, and maintain their own health, self-care, and social support systems.

Dr. Grady also gave highlights of NINR-funded training opportunities in research on AD and other forms of dementia, as well as on caregiving. "We must never lose sight of the needs of the individual suffering from this and other dementias, and the people who care for them," Dr. Grady said in her testimony.

Dr. Grady's testimony is available online at: <http://aging.senate.gov/events/fr229pg.pdf>.

### **3. New NIH Program: Lasker Clinical Research Scholars**

The NIH recently announced a new opportunity for early-career clinical researchers: the Lasker Clinical Research Scholars program. The program, a joint partnership that involves the NIH intramural and

extramural communities and the Lasker Foundation, will support a small number of exceptional clinical researchers in the early stages of their careers to promote their development to fully independent positions.

The program combines a period of research as a tenure-track investigator in the NIH Intramural Research Program (IRP) with an opportunity for additional years of independent financial support, either within the IRP or at an extramural research institution. Scholars will also participate in activities with the Lasker Foundation.

For more information about the program, visit: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-11-030.html>, or email [LaskerScholar@nih.gov](mailto:LaskerScholar@nih.gov).

#### **4. New BNC Fellow: Dr. Cynthia Leaver**

NINR is proud to introduce its new BNC Fellow for research in integrative medicine, Dr. Cynthia Leaver. Dr. Leaver is the second scientist brought to NINR by the BNC Fellowship Program, a joint effort of the Bravewell Collaborative, NINR, and the NIH Clinical Center (BNC). The fellowship provides a unique opportunity that combines the academic environment of a university with the breadth and depth of the intramural research program at the NIH.

Dr. Leaver has 25 years of clinical nursing background in post-surgical care, neurologic intensive care, ambulatory care, post anesthetic care, occupational health, school health, well women and well baby care. She has worked in academia as an adjunct faculty member at the Catholic University of America and Marymount University. Dr. Leaver worked as a research assistant at the Catholic University of America and is certified in web-based education from Indiana University.

Dr. Leaver's dissertation described the subjective well-being of the parochial elementary school child. The English translation of the Finnish School Well-being Model (Konu & Lintonen, 2006) was implemented to describe and correlate the four factors of well-being: health, social relationship, environment and school as a means for self-fulfillment.

Dr. Leaver received her BSN from Mount Saint Mary's College in Los Angeles, California; her MSN and FNP from the University of San Diego; and her PhD from the Catholic University of America. She is a member of the National League of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau, and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Dr. Leaver will focus her work as the BNC fellow on integrative care and the promotion of health and well-being in adolescent females.

#### **5. Dr. Bernadette Melnyk Gives First NINR Director's Lecture**

NINR's first Director's Lecture, "COPE: Improving Outcomes for Premature Infants and Parents," was given on January 18, 2011, by Dr. Bernadette Melnyk, Dean and Distinguished Foundation Professor in Nursing at Arizona State University College of Nursing and Health Innovation.

Melnyk, an internationally recognized expert in theory-based intervention research and evidence-based

practice as well as in child and adolescent mental health, spoke at the NIH Clinical Center's Lipsett Auditorium. She discussed research results from her Creating Opportunities for Parent Empowerment (COPE) intervention program, which has been shown to improve outcomes among critically ill children, premature infants, and their parents. In her presentation, Melnyk emphasized the importance of shortening the research to practice translational curve. For more information about COPE, please visit: [www.copeforhope.com](http://www.copeforhope.com).

A videocast of Dr. Melnyk's lecture is available online at: <http://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?Live=9907>.

The NINR Director's Lecture, which will be an annual event, was part of the year-long observation of the Institute's first 25 years at the NIH, commemorating the contributions of nursing science to solving some of America's most important health challenges.

For more information about future 25th Anniversary events, please visit: [www.ninr.nih.gov/25years](http://www.ninr.nih.gov/25years).

## **6. Application Deadline Extended for 2011 Graduate Partnerships Program**

[The NINR Graduate Partnerships Program \(GPP\)](#) is a doctoral fellowship training program that coordinates training and funding for doctoral students attending a school of nursing supported by an NINR-funded Institutional Research Training (T32) grant. The program combines the academic environment of a university and the breadth and depth of research at NIH.

**Please note:** To be eligible for the NINR GPP, the applicant must currently attend (or be accepted to) a school of nursing supported by a T32 grant funded by NINR.

Application instructions and answers to frequently asked questions are available online at: <https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/gpp/appinfo>.

**The application period for the NINR GPP has been extended to January 31, 2011.**

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Natalie A. Rasmussen  
Intramural Research Training Director, Assistant Clinical Investigator  
Email: [rasmussenna@mail.nih.gov](mailto:rasmussenna@mail.nih.gov)

## **7. NINR Seeks Assistant Clinical Investigator, Intramural Research Program**

NINR is seeking exceptional, creative candidates for the position of Assistant Clinical Investigator in the Intramural Research Program (IRP) to advance the Institute's complex mission.

NINR Assistant Clinical Investigators are doctorally-trained nurse scientists who conduct clinical/translational research in the Magnuson Clinical Research Center as principal or lead investigators on a variety of clinical research protocols. This position serves as an intermediate step between the completion of doctoral research training prior to possible consideration for a tenure-track position in the NIH's Intramural Research Program.

Responsibilities include preparing innovative clinical research protocols for IRB (Institutional Review Board) approval; organizing, implementing and conducting these protocols; directing the analysis of samples; and preparing manuscripts for publication in respected peer-reviewed scientific journals. Assistant clinical investigators also serve as mentors for students and post-doctoral trainees; contribute to the scientific interactions of the IRP through participation in the activities of the IRP; regularly present at national and international scientific meetings; and foster the development of new research opportunities and partnerships with other Federal and non-Federal organizations.

Applicants must possess a PhD or equivalent doctoral degree in health or allied sciences relevant to the position; clinical/translational research expertise; and a track record for publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals. Applicants must be able to plan, implement and direct research programs of scientific importance; and have the ability to communicate and collaborate with outside organizations and individuals with complimentary research interests. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Full Federal benefits include leave, health and life insurance, long-term care insurance, retirement, and a savings plan (401K equivalent).

Qualified individuals are encouraged to e-mail a CV, bibliography, a list of three references, and a cover letter outlining their relevant experience to:

**Laura E. Williams**

[willilau@mail.nih.gov](mailto:willilau@mail.nih.gov)

NINR Assistant Clinical Investigator Search Committee

### **Application Deadline: January 31, 2011**

E-mail receipt of applications and inquiries is preferred. However, candidates needing reasonable accommodation may fax the application materials to 301-480-4969.

The NIH encourages applications and nominations from women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities.

## **8. NINR to Offer Grantsmanship Workshops at Nursing Research Society Regional Conferences**

As part of NINR's commemoration of its 25th anniversary year, NINR staff will hold several grantsmanship workshops at upcoming Nursing Research Society regional annual conferences and scientific sessions. These small-group workshops and panel discussions will offer attendees a better understanding of the grantsmanship process and provide answers to common questions.

Topics to be covered include: The ABC's of NIH Funding: Mission, Mechanisms, and Science; Introduction to Enhanced Peer Review; Tips for Writing a Successful Grant Application; Fitting Your Science to the NIH Mission, Mechanisms and Peer Review; Planning a Research Career: Sound Bytes from the Experts; and several more.

More information on the workshops, including an application form and first-come, first-served registration, is available through the appropriate Regional Nursing Research Society. The NINR grantsmanship workshops will be held at the following events:

### **Southern Nursing Research Society Annual Conference**

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

8:00 - 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Hyatt Regency

225 East Coastline Drive

Jacksonville, Florida 32202

### **Eastern Nursing Research Society Annual Scientific Sessions**

Wednesday, March 23, 2011

8:00 - 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing

201 South Columbus Boulevard

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

### **Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Research Conference**

Thursday, March 24, 2011

8:00 - 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Hyatt Regency Columbus

350 North High Street

Columbus, Ohio 43215

### **Western Institute of Nursing Annual Research Conference**

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

12:00 - 3:30 p.m. and 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Rio

3700 W. Flamingo Road

Las Vegas, Nevada 89103

## **9. The 2011 NINR Summer Genetics Institute**

The NINR Summer Genetics Institute (SGI) is a one-month, intensive program of classroom and laboratory instruction in genetics that provides graduate students, nursing faculty, and clinicians with a foundation for biobehavioral research and clinical practice.

The SGI is administered by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences at NIH as one of the Bio-Trac programs. The SGI is provided by NINR at no cost to program attendees. Attendees are responsible for housing, food, and transportation expenses incurred during program participation.

Applicants should demonstrate potential for highly productive research or clinical careers.

To complete an online application for the 2011 SGI, please use the Graduate Partnerships Program (GPP) application system located at: <https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/gpp/appinfo>.

**Please note that although the GPP application system is being used to gather student information for the 2011 SGI, applicants should apply for the SGI on the page linked above.**

**The application period for the 2011 SGI opens on February 1, 2011 and will close on April 18, 2011 at 10:00 am EST.**

**The SGI will be held June 6 - July 1, 2011 in Building 60 on the NIH Campus.**

For more information on the SGI, please email [ninrsgi@mail.nih.gov](mailto:ninrsgi@mail.nih.gov) or visit: <http://www.ninr.nih.gov/Training/SGI>.

### **10. Call for Poster Abstracts: Concluding 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scientific Symposium**

As part of the year long celebration marking the Institute's 25th anniversary, NINR is pleased to announce a call for poster abstracts for a poster session to be held October 13, 2011, location TBA.

We invite submissions on:

- Clinical Research
- Basic Research
- Innovative programs with applications to nursing research
- Comparative Effectiveness Research

These submissions can be:

- Completed work
- Work in progress
- Work presented at other meetings
- Work previously published

### **Guidelines for Submission:**

**The first page of the abstract should include the following information:**

- TITLE of the project
- AUTHOR(s) and Co-authors Name and Title
- INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION(s)
- Preferred Mailing Address (Primary Author)
- Daytime Phone Number (Primary Author)
- Daytime Fax Number (Primary Author)
- E-Mail Address (Primary Author)

**The second page of the abstract should contain the abstract text. Begin with the title of the poster presentation. Do not put any other identifying information on page 2. Limit the abstract text to 350 words. Use a font size not less than 12 point, and use 1" margins on all four sides of the page.**

- TITLE OF THE PROJECT

- **OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT.** A standard format to include sections on Background, Hypothesis, Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusions. You may alter this format to fit your project.

**Instructions for Posters:** Detailed instructions for preparing posters will be provided to those authors whose submitted abstracts are accepted.

**Submission:** Submit your abstract electronically to David Banks, PhD, RN at [banksdh@mail.nih.gov](mailto:banksdh@mail.nih.gov).

**The abstract submission deadline is March 15.** Selections will be announced by June 1, 2011.

**For more information, please contact:**

Dr. David Banks  
NINR Office of Extramural Activities  
Phone: 301-496-9558  
Email: [banksdh@mail.nih.gov](mailto:banksdh@mail.nih.gov)

## **11. Current Funding Opportunity Announcements and Notices**

All current NINR Funding Opportunity Announcements, including Requests for Applications (RFAs) and Program Announcements (PAs), as well as Notices of interest from NIH, are available on the NINR website at <http://www.ninr.nih.gov/ResearchAndFunding/DEA/OEP/FundingOpportunities/default.htm>.

These items can also be found in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts:  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>.

## **12. 74th Meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research**

The open session of the 74th meeting of the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research (NACNR) will take place on May 17, 2011 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. in Conference Room 6C6, Building 31, C wing, on the NIH campus. Visitors are welcome to attend.

The NACNR meets three times a year to provide recommendations on the direction and support of the nursing, biomedical, social, and behavioral research that forms the evidence base for nursing practice.

More information about the NACNR is available online at:  
<http://www.ninr.nih.gov/AboutNINR/NACNR>.

Information on visiting the NIH campus is available online at:  
<http://www.nih.gov/about/visitor/index.htm>.